

Council happenings . . .

with Mayor
Glenn Wall

Land Use Strategy

All Dungog Shire ratepayers would have received correspondence outlining the public exhibition period and consultation process pertaining to the Draft Dungog Shire Situation Analysis and the Draft Land Use Strategy.

However, just to remind the Community, the dates for the Community Information Sessions are Tuesday 08th Sept. Doug Walters Pavilion (Dungog), Wednesday 09th Sept. Clarence Town School of Arts and Thursday 10th Sept. Vacy School of Arts.

These planning documents are extremely important from a land use planning perspective as they propose the strategic and integrated planning framework for Dungog Shire through to the year 2031. These documents will complement the work already undertaken with the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2006 (Amendment No. 6) which dealt mainly with the Town and Village areas of Paterson, Martins Creek, Vacy, Clarence Town and Gresford.

The land use strategy covers all the above towns and villages and includes Dungog Township and the Tillegra Dam precinct. The rural areas and respective issues are discussed in the strategy. However, the strategy does recommend a detailed rural lands study to identify specific rural land use. This will be the subject of a separate report and subject to funding.

I would urge everyone to attend the information evenings. The documents are also available at the various display points throughout the Shire and from the Council Administration Centre. The documents are also available at www.dungog.nsw.gov.au

I look forward to the Communities participation at the information sessions and your constructive comments. On this occasion leading up to our next comprehensive LEP, I hope there is a high degree of Community Ownership affixed to the document.

Volunteer Grants 2009

Volunteer Grants 2009 provides funding for eligible non-profit organisations to support their volunteers and encourage volunteering by purchasing practical and tangible small equipment items to help volunteers. The grant can also be used to assist towards the reimbursement of volunteers' fuel costs incurred when carrying out their volunteering work, including those who use their cars to transport others to activities, deliver food and assist people in need.

Organisations can apply for grant funding from a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum of \$5,000. Funding is limited and applications will be assessed and prioritised according to how strongly they meet the selection criteria. The selection criteria, eligibility criteria and other essential information about Volunteer Grants 2009 is provided at <http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/volunteers/funding>

Applications must be lodged by 5pm AEST Friday, 25 September 2009.
2 September 2009